(c) to (e) The matter was brought to the knowledge of Government on May 30, 1997 by one of the relatives of the missing crew members. Our Missions/ Post in Dubai, Baghdad and Kuwait have been alerted and asked to contact the concerned authorities. Consulate General of India, Dubai sent an official to the shipping company's office, which consisted of a small room and the person present there gave an unsatisfactory reply about the whereabouts of the ship. The mobile telephone number of the owner of the ship went continuously unanswered and the company official in Dubai is unable to provide any information about the ship. CGI, Dubai, in the absence of any evidence of ship wreck in the areas where the ship sailed, and information made available by local authorities, has premised that the ship might have been detained for violating the UN embargo against Iraq. Thereafter, our Mission in Bahrain has been asked to contact the Multinational Interception Force (MIF) based in Bahrain to trace the whereabouts of the ship and its Indian crew members. In addition, the Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations in New York and Embassy of India, Riyadh are enquiring into the matter. The efforts through our Missions/ Posts to locate the ship's crew is continuing.

Prime Minister's Discussions with the President of Peru

959. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact the the Prime Minister had held discussions with the President of Peru, Mr. Alberto Fujimori at Delhi on 26th May, 1997; and

(b) if so, the details of the issues discussed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI KAMALA SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The discussions centred around bilateral, political, economic and cultural relations. Discussions were also held on regional issues of common interest as also multilateral issues which included the menance of Terrorism, UN reforms, World Trade Organisation, G-15, Non-Aligned Movement, Environment, Disarmament, and Humand Rights.

Six official agreements were also signed during the visit. These pertain to Agriculture, Antarctica, cooperation between the Diplomatic Academy of Peru and Foreign Service Institute of India, Regular Foreign Office Consultations, Technical Cooperation and Tourism. Two business agreements were also signed during the visit. The first set up a joint Business Council (JBC) between FICCI and the Confederation of Peruvian Business and Industry (CONFIEP). The second was a protocol for cooperation between the Peruvian Chamber of Software (CPS) and the National Association of Software and Service Companies (NASSCOM) of India.

AIDS-Afflicted Children in the Country

960. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that children in the country are afflicted by AIDS;

(b) if so, the number of children between the age group of 1—12 years afflicted by AIDS;

(c) whether Government have contemplated steps to save the children from AIDS; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) Yes, Sir.